

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SAN DIEGO REGION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

BACTERIA-IMPAIRED WATERS TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS (TMDLs) PROJECT I

March 9, 2004 1:30 p.m.

Regional Board Office Hearing Room

9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100

San Diego, California 92123-4340

PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board) will hold its second public workshop on the *Bacteria-Impaired Waters TMDL Project I for Beaches and Creeks* (Bacteria Project I) on Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at 1:30 PM at the Regional Board office. The purpose of the public workshop is to provide an overview of the draft Technical Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Report, answer questions and receive input from the public on the project. Public participation is encouraged and is an important part of the TMDL process. Two or more Regional Board members may attend this meeting. However, no voting will occur.

BACKGROUND

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) requires States to develop a list of waterbodies that do not, or are not expected to, meet water quality standards after implementing technology-based controls. CWA Section 303(d) requires States to identify these impaired waters and develop TMDLs for such waters. The purpose of a TMDL is to restore the waterbody's beneficial uses and attain water quality objectives.

Beneficial uses are designated in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Region (9)* (Basin Plan), and include water contact (REC-1) and non-contact (REC-2) recreational activities. The Basin Plan further designates water quality objectives that are designed to protect these beneficial uses. There are approximately 38 waters in the San Diego Region, including beaches, creeks, bays, and lagoons that are on the 2002 CWA Section 303(d) list due to bacteria impairment. In order to meet water quality objectives and restore REC-1 and REC-2 beneficial uses, the Regional Board is conducting two sequential TMDL projects. Bacteria Project I, which is currently underway, includes TMDL calculations for 18 impaired beach segments and creeks representing roughly 24 miles of coastal shoreline and inland surface waters. The remaining 20 bacteria-impaired waters will be addressed in an upcoming subsequent TMDL project known as *Bacteria-Impaired Waters TMDL Project II for Bays and Lagoons* (Bacteria Project II). This project will result in TMDL

calculations for roughly 2000 acres of impaired bays and lagoons and 26 miles of impaired coastal shoreline adjacent to lagoons.

FORMATION OF STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP (SAG)

The Regional Board is forming a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) to participate in the development of the Bacteria Project I. As announced at the first public workshop, the SAG will have two primary purposes: 1) provide review and informal comments on the Draft Technical TMDL Report, and 2) participate with the Regional Board in the development of the Implementation Plan. Participation as a SAG member will require a substantial commitment of time for document review and informal comment. It will also involve attendance at several meetings over the course of the next year. Ideally the group will be comprised of no more than 10 stakeholders in order to be large enough to encompass all points of view, but small enough to make significant progress.

The Regional Board would like to invite representatives from five categories comprising no more than 10 individuals to participate in the SAG. Specifically, the Regional Board would like to invite five representatives from municipalities in the San Diego, Orange and Riverside counties to be distributed as follows: one representative from the San Diego Bay watersheds, one representative from the San Diego/Penasquitos (Mission Bay) watersheds, one representative from the Carlsbad/San Dieguito watersheds, one representative from the Santa Margarita River/San Luis Rey watersheds, and one representative from the San Juan watershed. In addition, the Regional Board would like to invite one to two representatives from the environmental community, one representative from the academic and research community, one representative from the public at large, and one representative from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

Interested parties from each of these categories should coordinate among themselves to determine who will serve on the SAG as representative(s) for each category. Names and contact information for the SAG

representatives should be provided to the Regional Board by March 5, 2004. The first SAG meeting will take place immediately following the public workshop on March 9, 2004. Members of the SAG should come to the meeting having reviewed the Draft Technical TMDL Report, and be prepared to discuss the report and provide informal comments.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Draft Technical TMDL Report for the Bacteria Project I is nearing completion, and will be made available on our website (www.swrcb.ca.gov/rqcb9) for public review no later than 4 p.m. on February 24, 2004. This report will be available at the Regional Board office at the address listed above on weekdays by appointment during business hours beginning on Tuesday, February 24, 2004 at 4 p.m. A hard copy may also be requested using the contact information below.

INFORMATION

Parking is available at the Hearing location. See website for map to Hearing location. The Hearing room facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Lori Costa at (858) 467-2357 at least 5 working days prior to March 9, 2004. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to either Christina Arias or Lesley Dobalian. Ms. Arias may be contacted by phone at: (858) 627-3931, or e-mail: ariac@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov. Ms. Dobalian may be contacted by phone at: (858) 637-7139, or e-mail: dobal@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov.

Thank you for your interest in the Basin Plan and the protection of water quality.

/S/

John H. Robertus
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date: February 6, 2004

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